

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BELGRA 01555 040816Z

45

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 079490

R 040746Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8946

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 1555

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT YO

SUBJECT: TITO'S APPEARANCE DURING BOSNIA VISIT

1. TV NEWSCAST EVENING APRIL 2 GAVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF TITO'S VISIT EARLIER IN DAY TO TOWNS OF DOBOJ, ZENICA, TRAVNIK AND BUGOJNO -- ALL IN BOSNIA. (TRIP HAD NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED IN ADVANCE.) OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT TITO WAS, AT LEAST ON THAT DAY, SHOWING DEFINITE SIGNS OF AGE. HIS DESCENT DOWN THE SPECIAL RAMP FROM HIS CAR IN THE BLUE TRAIN WAS ALMOST PAINFULLY SLOW. ONCE HE HESITATED BEFORE STEPPING OFF A CURB. HIS LACKLUSTER REMARKS AT A SMALL MEETING IN DOBOJ WERE DELIVERED IN AN ALMOST INAUDIBLE VOICE; SEVERAL TIMES SOMEONE OFF-CAMERA CHIMED IN TO SUPPLY WORDS WHEN THE OLD MAN PAUSED IN HIS DELIVERY -- THERE WAS NO OPPORTUNITY FOR VIEWERS TO TELL WHETHER HE HAD REALLY LOST TRAIN OF THOUGHT OR WHETHER HE WAS SIMPLY SPEAKING VERY SLOWLY.

2. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO READ TOO MUCH INTO ONE BAD PERFORMANCE ON TITO'S PART. ANYONE WHO HAS TRIED TO SLEEP IN A TRAIN TRAVELING OVER BOSNIAN ROADBEDS CAN TESTIFY TO DIFFICULTIES OF GETTING GOOD NIGHT'S REST. BUT IF TV COVERAGE WAS INTENDED TO SHOW THAT TITO IS HIS OLD SELF AGAIN, IT WAS SINGULARLY UNSUCCESSFUL. BELGRAD RUMOR MILL CAN BE EXPECTED TO START GRINDING OUT MORE STORIES OF HEALTH/SENILITY PROBLEMS AS A RESULT.

TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BELGRA 01555 040816Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEALTH, PERSONAL OPINION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BELGRA01555
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740075-1020
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740468/aaaackkb.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUL 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TITO'S APPEARANCE DURING BOSNIA VISIT
TAGS: PINT, YO, (TITO), (BOSNIA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005